

ATTN: APPLICATION BRANCH

OBLON SPIVAK McClelland **MAIER** NEUSTADT P.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

THIS IS A RESPONSE TO A NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF AN APPLICATION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

Re: Inventor:

Mechthild RIEPING, et al.

Serial No:

10/616,309 July 10, 2003

Filed: For:

PROCESS FOR THE FERMENTATIVE PREPARATION OF L-

AMINO ACIDS USING STRAINS OF THE ENTEROBACTERIACEAE FAMILY

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application; Filing of Declaration; Declaration (executed; 3 pp.); Preliminary Amendment w/Abstract

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event that any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 CFR 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 CFR 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Docket No.

236399US0X

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Jean-Paul Lavalleye Registration No.

31,451

22850

Customer Number

Tel. (703) 413-3000 Fax. (703) 413-2220 (OSMMN 05/03)

Thomas M. Cunningham Registration No. 45,394